

(b) a first fermentation step for adding rice *koji* and yeast to water and fermenting thereof;

(c) a second fermentation step for adding rice *koji* and the saccharified rice liquor obtained from the step (a) to the resultant mixture of the first fermentation step and fermenting thereof;

(d) a third fermentation step for adding the saccharified rice liquor obtained from the step (a) to the resultant mixture of the second fermentation step;

(e) a separation step for separating liquid by filtering the resultant mixture of the third fermentation step; and

(f) an oxidation reaction step for conducting an oxidation reaction of the resultant liquid of the separation step in the presence of oxygen.

*B1*  
57. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein the oxidation reaction is carried out under irradiation with light.

*B2*  
59. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein the oxidation reaction is carried out by aeration or blowing oxygen into the reaction system.

*B3*  
62. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein the yeast is ferulic acid decarboxylase activity.

63. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein the oxidation reaction is carried out in the presence of an enzyme which accelerates the

oxidation reaction.

*B4*  
65. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein said liquor is a cooking liquor.

66. (Amended) The method according to claim 56 or 83, wherein said liquor is sake.

Please add the following new claims to the application:

--83. A method of producing liquor, comprising:  
*B5*  
(a) liquefying and saccharifying a cereal using a filamentous fungus;  
(b) fermenting resultant matter obtained in (a), using yeast;  
(c) separating liquid by filtering resultant matter from (b); and  
(d) conducting an oxidation reaction of resulting liquid obtained in (c), in the presence of oxygen.

84. The method according to claim 83, wherein said liquefying and saccharifying are performed using  $\alpha$ -amylase and glucoamylase.

85. The method according to claim 56, wherein said liquefying enzyme is  $\alpha$ -amylase and said saccharifying enzyme is glucoamylase...